

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) regarding FIG. 2 of Schaer U.S. Patent 2,188,959. The Examiner compares the "radially elastic tubular part" of claim 1 with the "flexible frame member 6 formed of rubber" of Schaer (Column 1, line 46). It is never said in this patent '959 that the frame 6 is radially elastic; it is only flexible which is very different.

Further, the supporting washers 9 and cup members 7 are only destined to support the sponge brushes 5 and have no guide surface able to deform the support part during operation as set forth in claim 1. For these reasons, claim 1 is not anticipated by Schaer '959.

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Schaer in view of Jonnes. Claim 2 has been amended above, to more particularly define the invention and distinguish over the art of record. Support for this amendment is found in the specification at page 9, lines 1 and 2. The rib 16 of Jonnes cannot be included in the device of Schaer to serve as the axial support of a seal.

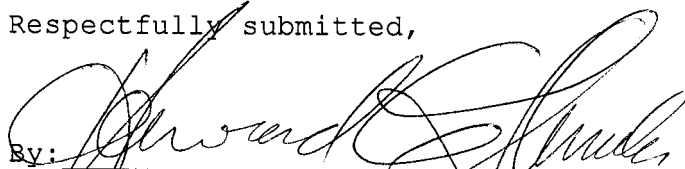
Claims 3 - 5 and 7 - 9 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaer in view of Crane, and claims 10 - 11 have been similarly rejected in further view of Constant et al. These rejections are in error for the reasons that, according to the Examiner, each of these documents describes a cleaning tool which is pulled through the conduit

and which does not comprise a seal or support part as claimed in the respective parent claims.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 - 5 and 7 - 11 are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that claim 6, through its dependency on an allowable parent claim is also allowable, and notice to such effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees required by this amendment, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 37253.

Respectfully submitted,

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